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Progress on the implementation of the World Declaration and Plan of Action from the World Summit for Children

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report was prepared in response to resolution 51/186 of 16 December 1996, in which the General Assembly decided to convene a special session in 2001 to review the achievement of the goals and targets agreed upon at the World Summit for Children for the year 2000 and requested the Secretary-General to report at its fifty-third session on the preparations for the special session and on progress on the implementation of the resolution.

The report provides an update on progress towards the end-decade goals, within the context provided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Based on experiences acquired and on the global context for children, it highlights the major challenges that remain in order to keep the Summit's promises for children.

While there has been important progress since mid-decade in meeting many of the targets agreed upon in 1990, much remains to be done if all of the goals for children are to be accomplished at the global level by the year 2000. It calls on Governments to renew the commitments they made in 1990, which, it has been shown, can be met if there is strong political commitment, widespread participation of stakeholders and the provision of adequate resources and international support.

The report relates the follow-up to the World Summit for Children to the coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system to the major summits and conferences of the 1990s and provides information on the preparation process for the global review of progress that will take place at the close of the decade.

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I. Introduction

1. The 1990 World Summit for Children was a pioneering gathering of world leaders around the cause of children. It adopted the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s, which set forth a vision of "first call" for children by establishing 7 major and 20 supporting goals that were quantifiable and were considered achievable by the year 2000. The General Assembly, in resolution 45/217 of 21 December 1990, welcomed the adoption of the World Declaration and the Plan of Action and urged all States and the international community to work for the achievements of the goals and objectives endorsed therein. The Declaration and the Plan of Action were endorsed by 181 countries and 155 of them prepared national programmes of action for children. In order to sustain the momentum of progress on behalf of children, a round-table meeting was held in New York in 1993, which set intermediate goals to be achieved by 1995. The Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) endorsed these goals in its resolution 1993/16 (see resolution 1993/16, section II, para. 5).

2. Following a mid-decade review, the Secretary-General reported to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session (A/51/256) on progress made towards the mid-decade and end-decade goals. Major progress was reported in reducing measles deaths, increased coverage of oral rehydration therapy (ORT), eradication of dracunculiasis (guinea worm disease) and the universal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Considerable improvement was made in the coverage of immunization, the reduction of polio cases, the promotion of breastfeeding and the iodization of salt. Several countries were advancing towards adequate vitamin A intake, the elimination of neonatal tetanus and towards the end-decade goals for water. .

3. While considerable progress had been made in reducing child mortality, only one third of developing countries were on track to achieve the World Summit goal. Progress on primary education had barely kept pace with the increase in population and much remained to be done to reduce child malnutrition, maternal mortality and adult illiteracy and to increase access to adequate sanitation.

4. In resolution 51/186, adopted on 16 December 1996, the General Assembly welcomed the significant progress made by most countries in achieving the majority of the mid-decade goals and objectives of the World Summit for Children. The Assembly noted with concern the considerable variation in the progress made across countries and regions and the varying rates of progress in relation to the goals, and expressed particular concern that progress in malnutrition, maternal mortality, sanitation and girls' education had been inadequate, and in some cases negligible. The Assembly decided to convene a special session in 2001 to review the achievement of the goals of the World Summit and to consider the arrangements for the special session at its fifty-third session. The Secretary-General was requested to report to the Assembly at that session on preparations for the special session.

5. The present report has been prepared in response to resolution 51/186. It takes stock of some of the progress made for children during the 1990s, especially since mid-decade, and highlights the major challenges that Governments must still meet, with the support of the United Nations system and other partners, if the promises for children made in 1990 are to be honoured.

II. The global context for children

6. The 1990s have been remarkable in many respects, with numerous developments that favour the cause of women and children. The decade has seen widespread promotion of the principles of democratic governance and respect for human rights. Children are higher on public and political agendas than ever before. A consensus has been building around the centrality of human development, the need for investing in children and the participation of children, parents, families and communities in the development process. Organized civil society is assuming a more central role in the social and political life of nations and on the international stage.

7. The average economic growth in developing countries over the decade has been twice as high as in the 1980s and this improved economic performance has brought about a recovery in public spending on social services in many countries. Economic liberalization, rapid growth in international trade, global communication networks and information technology have the potential for furthering children's rights and their well-being.

8. However, several countries are witnessing the paradoxical combination of renewed economic growth on the one hand and widening disparities and deepening poverty on the other, which seem to indicate the emergence of an increasingly two-tiered global economy. UNICEF estimates that about 40 per cent of all children in developing countries live in conditions of extreme poverty, below the international

poverty line of $1 per person per day. According to the World Bank, the current financial and economic crises in East Asia are likely to push at least 20 million people back into poverty. Public expenditures on social services, even though they have recovered from their decline in the 1980s, are not reaching the poorest of the poor in many countries. While military spending has declined in several countries, debt service payments are increasing and special initiatives have not had an adequate impact on the debt burden of the least developed and low-income countries. Gender gaps in access to basic services and legal status have persisted, while violence against girls and women has increased. Some 8 million children are already orphaned as a result of HIV/AIDS, with nearly 40 million more expected to be by the year 2010.

9. The cause of children is also not helped by the decline in official development assistance (ODA), which, as a proportion of donors' combined gross national product (GNP), has been declining for nearly two decades. Official development assistance now stands at less than one third of the target of 0.7 per cent of GNP. Since 1992, the absolute amount of ODA has declined continuously. Interest payments on the external debt of developing countries now exceed total official development assistance. The proportion of ODA allocated to the least developed countries has remained stagnant and international assistance to basic education and primary health care, two key areas directly related to the goals of the World Summit for Children, remain low. Net private capital flows are no substitute for ODA, since they seldom gravitate to the neediest countries or benefit the poorest segments within countries.

10. Since 1990, the number of children affected by emergencies has risen seven-fold and their access to basic social services has become more difficult to obtain. The devastating impact of these emergencies has been seen in the large numbers of orphaned, displaced and refugee children and in the increasing numbers of households headed by women or children. Experience indicates that these children and women are much more vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.

11. Despite these daunting challenges, the movement for children's and women's rights has continued to gain strength. The Convention on the Rights of the Child, whose entry into force coincided with the World Summit for Children in September 1990, has been ratified by all but two countries, making it the most widely accepted human rights treaty in history. The Convention recognizes the economic, social, cultural, political and civil rights of all children and provides a visionary framework for States parties to develop national agendas for children. Achieving the goals of the World Summit for Children is a concrete step towards the sustained realization of children's rights. At the same time, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, ratified by 161 countries, and the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing have made more explicit the link between children's and women's rights. This link has been reflected in increasing awareness of gender issues in programmes for girls; mainstreaming of gender concerns into all development programmes; and recognition of the need for data disaggregated by gender for assessing and reporting on the situation of children and women and on the achievement of the Summit goals.

III. Global progress for children

12. More progress has been made for the world's children in the past decade than in any comparable period in human history. Despite the many challenges facing children, child mortality rates have continued to decline in recent years and, since 1995, there has been steady progress towards several health-related mid-decade goals, achievements which demonstrate that concerted efforts by Governments, with international support, can have concrete results for children. The most notable achievements include the following:

(a) About 7 million young lives are now saved each year as a result of the combined impact of immunization and ORT use;

(b) Measles deaths have been eliminated in the Latin American and Caribbean region, reduced by 96 per cent in the Middle East and North Africa, followed by 95 per cent in East Asia and the Pacific, 94 per cent in the industrialized countries, 87 per cent in South Asia and 65 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa;

(c) The reported incidence of polio declined from 23,000 to 4,000 cases between 1990 and 1997. Polio has been certified as having been eliminated across the Americas, 83 other countries have reported zero polio incidence during the last three years and the global goal of eradication by 2000 is achievable, although certification may only be feasible after that date;

(d) Immunization now protects an estimated 700,000 infants per year from neonatal tetanus and 120 countries have virtually eliminated the disease (i.e., reduced the national rate to less than 1 per 1,000 live births). Neonatal tetanus continues to be a major health problem only where births are not attended by trained midwives;

(e) One million fewer children died of diarrhoeal dehydration in 1997 compared to 1990, largely due to the

widespread use of ORT. The mid-decade goal of ORT use for 80 per cent of diarrhoeal episodes has been achieved. The production of oral rehydration salts has increased from 51 million sachets in 1980 to 800 million in 1995, with two thirds of the world's supply now being produced in developing countries;

(f) An estimated 1.5 billion more people now consume iodized salt than in 1990;

(g) Programmes to control acute respiratory infections (ARI) providing correct case management and training of caregivers at household and community levels are being implemented in 59 countries. In over 20 countries, integrated approaches to combat ARI, diarrhoea, malaria, measles and malnutrition are being implemented;

(h) The number of cases of guinea worm in Africa and Asia has been reduced by 97 per cent from the 1990 level.

13. In spite of these remarkable achievements, the latest available data indicate that it will be difficult to meet the targets set for the year 2000 for the major goals at both the regional and global levels. Every year, 12 million children in developing countries die of mainly preventable causes. An estimated 1.4 billion people still lack access to safe water and about twice as many have no access to adequate sanitation. About 130 million children remain out of primary school, about 60 per cent of them girls. Nearly 160 million children under five years of age are moderately or severely malnourished. Approximately 585,000 women die each year from causes related to pregnancy and another 50 million women are estimated to be living with permanent injuries or chronic disabilities following complications from pregnancy or delivery. About 850 million adults remain illiterate, two thirds of them women. Some 250 million children between the ages of 5 and 14 years are involved in child labour.

14. Without a significant acceleration in the current rate of progress, only East Asia and the Pacific, Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the Baltic States and the industrialized countries appear to be on track to achieve the basic education target. Only the industrialized countries are set to reach the targeted reduction in under-five mortality rate (U5MR), and no region is likely to meet the targets for child malnutrition, safe water, sanitation and adult literacy. Moreover, the HIV/AIDS pandemic is undermining many of the gains made in recent years, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and parts of Asia. Some other major causes of child mortality, notably malaria, have shown signs of resurgence. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that there are between 1.5 million and 2.7 million deaths from malaria every year, mainly of young children, 90 per cent of which occur in sub-Saharan Africa.

15. This situation can be changed significantly through national efforts, supported by the commitment and mobilization of the international community. However, time is short if this is to be achieved before the end of the decade.

IV. Monitoring and evaluation of progress to date

16. The process of assessing the mid-decade goals demonstrated how critical and timely data can be obtained for reviewing progress. Governments in 60 countries carried out multiple indicator cluster surveys, a rapid and cost-efficient method for monitoring the Summit goals developed by UNICEF in collaboration with other United Nations agencies. Additional data were collected through 14 demographic and health surveys and 29 other surveys. In total, over 100 countries were covered, signifying the first major attempt ever made outside of censuses to obtain disaggregated data on social development. A 1997 UNICEF evaluation of multiple indicator cluster surveys concluded that the surveys have improved countries' capacities for data collection, analysis and reporting at both subnational and national levels, thus enhancing their abilities to monitor progress on the situation of children. The evaluation also found that the surveys have promoted intersectoral collaboration and supported policy reform, programme planning and fund-raising on behalf of children.

17. The lessons derived from the mid-decade review of progress since the World Summit for Children can be relevant for the follow-up to other global conferences. They indicate in particular that:

(a) Through global agendas for action, the world conferences have influenced national leaders, policy makers and planners at the highest levels to commit their countries to achieving specific national goals;

(b) The goals have been instrumental in fostering a greater consensus in development thinking, centred around specific social outcomes;

(c) Regular follow-up to the agendas is required to maintain the momentum of the conferences;

(d) The international agendas need to be adapted to each national situation, because, while global goals are important, country-specific targets and target dates need to

be adapted to each country's needs in a realistic but ambitious manner;

(e) Government decision-making needs to be strengthened through the collection and use of relevant, timely and disaggregated data, in order to address country- and area-specific needs and priorities;

(f) Periodic reviews and reports on progress, or lack of progress, at the national and subnational levels need to be undertaken to increase the level of transparency and accountability in improving the situation of children.

18. Another set of lessons comes from research into how 10 relatively low-income countries achieved high levels of social development over the last few decades (*Development with a Human Face*, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1997, a UNICEF-commissioned publication). None of the high achievers relied solely on market forces or the trickle-down of income to improve the well-being of children. Systematic data collection and analysis of their experiences concluded that the public sector plays a key role in securing access for the poorest to basic social services. In spite of their low incomes, Governments in these countries established a strong educational foundation and made key health interventions to achieve major health outcomes. Their investment in education preceded, or occurred simultaneously with, the breakthroughs in the reduction of infant mortality rates. Girls' education is unquestionably the key to achieving this synergy: it gives a young woman the sense of personal empowerment, self-confidence and capacity to make decisions that affect her own life. Indeed, an educated girl marries later, spaces her pregnancies and child births better, seeks medical attention for her child in case of illness, gives better child care and monitors the child's nutritional status, all of which ensures that the child learns better in school. All of these countries registered a higher level of achievement with respect to the mid-decade goals than other countries.

V. Accelerating progress towards the major end-decade goals

A. Under-five mortality rate

19. The Summit goal is to reduce the under-five mortality rate (U5MR) by one third or to 70 per 1,000 live births, whichever is lower, by the year 2000. Although there have been improvements in recent years in all regions, the rate is insufficient to achieve the target by 2000 in all countries. Based on available data, it is projected that over two thirds of the industrialized countries, about one half of countries in the Middle East and North Africa, one third of countries in East Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Central and Eastern Europe, CIS and the Baltic States, and only a few countries in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia are likely to achieve the U5MR target by the year 2000 (see table 1 below).

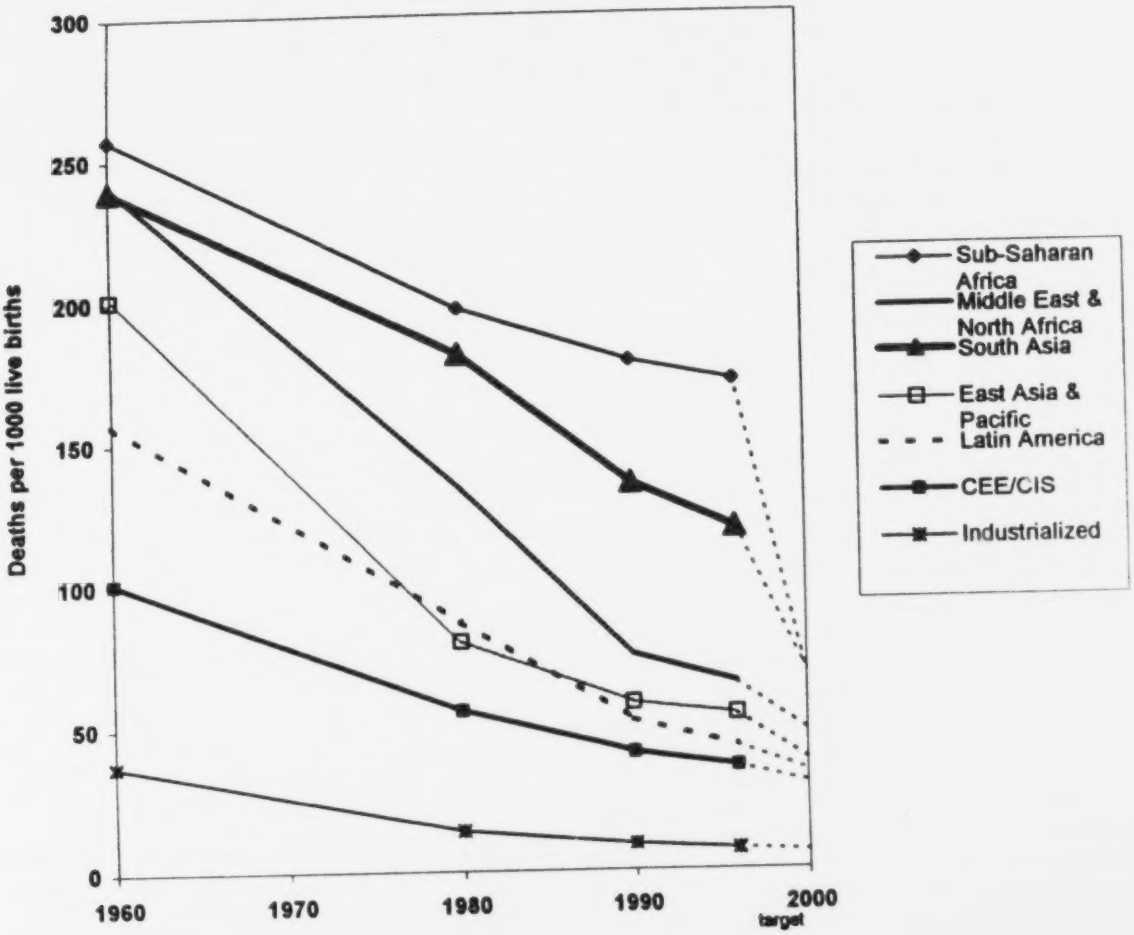
20. To accelerate efforts to reduce U5MR, the current immunization coverage must not only be sustained, but raised to 90 per cent or more at national and subnational levels in all countries. Because U5MR is higher in poor urban and remote rural areas, an integrated approach to the provision of essential services is needed, with particular attention to disadvantaged communities, to attack the five major causes of child deaths: ARI, diarrhoea measles, malaria and malnutrition. This will require a convergence of basic services at family and community levels, based on local needs and including, for example improved access to safe water and sanitary facilities for excreta disposal, vitamin A and other micronutrient supplements in areas noted for their deficiencies and the use of impregnated bednets in areas affected by malaria. Families and communities also need knowledge and skills for basic preventive and curative measures and child-care practices at home. The Integrated Management of Childhood Illness initiative, spearheaded by WHO in collaboration with UNICEF and other partners since 1996, has been introduced in 40 countries. With its area-specific and comprehensive approach, the initiative is expected significantly to improve the management of sick children by health workers and promote preventive child health interventions.

B. Maternal mortality

21. The Summit target is to reduce 1990 levels of maternal mortality by one half by the year 2000. According to UNICEF and WHO, there were approximately 585,000 pregnancy-related deaths in 1990. In the absence of reliable baseline data on maternal mortality in most countries, it is very difficult to establish clear trends, but there is no compelling evidence indicating significant progress at the global level since 1990. The highest maternal mortality rates are in sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia and some countries in East Asia and the Pacific region. A woman's risk of dying from pregnancy-related causes is estimated to be 1 in 50 in the developing world overall and 1 in 10 in Africa, compared with 1 in 9,000 in industrialized countries. Poor maternal health and nutrition and inadequate management of

Table 1

Under-five mortality rate



Source: UNICEF

pregnancy and delivery also contribute to a large proportion of infant deaths during the first month of life.

22. Strategies to reduce maternal mortality include: (a) strengthening health programmes that give all pregnant women access to basic maternity and essential obstetric care services, as attempts to predict life-threatening complications and risks during pregnancy have not been as successful as anticipated; (b) attendance at birth of a trained health professional (a doctor, nurse or midwife); (c) training of traditional birth attendants, supported by mechanisms for referral, supervision, monitoring and evaluation; (d) improving the nutritional status of women before and during pregnancy, including through dosages of vitamin A; (e) extending and improving the quality of pre- and post-natal care; (f) ensuring access to quality services for the poorest segments of the population by reducing or removing financial barriers; (g) involving communities in the management of services at district hospitals and health centres; and (h) increasing access of women in developing countries to education and economic resources, in addition to reducing restrictions on their ability to make decisions on reproductive health, family health and nutrition.

C. Child malnutrition

23. The Summit goal is to reduce severe and moderate malnutrition among children under five years of age by one half between 1990 and 2000. Improved child and maternal nutrition is also expected to have a significant impact on the reduction of child mortality. There has been steady progress towards several goals related to micronutrients. For example, under the global programme for attacking iodine deficiency disorder (IDD), a principal cause of mental retardation in children, some 40 countries now iodize over 75 per cent of salt and are poised to declare elimination of IDD. Another 14 countries iodize more than 50 per cent of salt and are likely to achieve the salt iodization goal by 2000. Monitoring and quality control remain central challenges for all countries. One half of children at high risk of vitamin A deficiency now receive vitamin A supplementation, compared with one third at mid-decade. The linking of vitamin A supplementation to national immunization days since 1995 has improved supplementation coverage dramatically in some countries. The number of hospitals certified as "baby-friendly" has increased from about 5,000 in 1995 to 13,552 in 1998. The importance of supporting breastfeeding from the moment of birth in maternity hospitals has been demonstrated in many countries by such outcomes as reduced diarrhoea-related morbidity and mortality.

24. Data on child malnutrition from the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) Subcommittee on Nutrition show that, while there has been some improvement in reducing child malnutrition globally, the rate of improvement has slowed down in the 1990s compared with the 1980s and is substantially lower than the rate required to achieve the Summit goal at the global level (see table 2 below).

25. Child malnutrition levels remain intransigent in many countries, in particular in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Commitment from all levels of society must be mobilized, but given the critical importance of community involvement, national efforts must focus on creating a supportive environment for community programmes. Experience of existing community-based programmes clearly show their potential in terms of reducing child and maternal malnutrition. UNICEF and WHO have incorporated best practices in the Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses initiative. Complementary feeding practices are also critical, because most malnutrition originates during the period of complementary feeding, often referred to as the weaning period. More needs to be done to prevent nutritional emergencies and to design safety nets for the most vulnerable children.

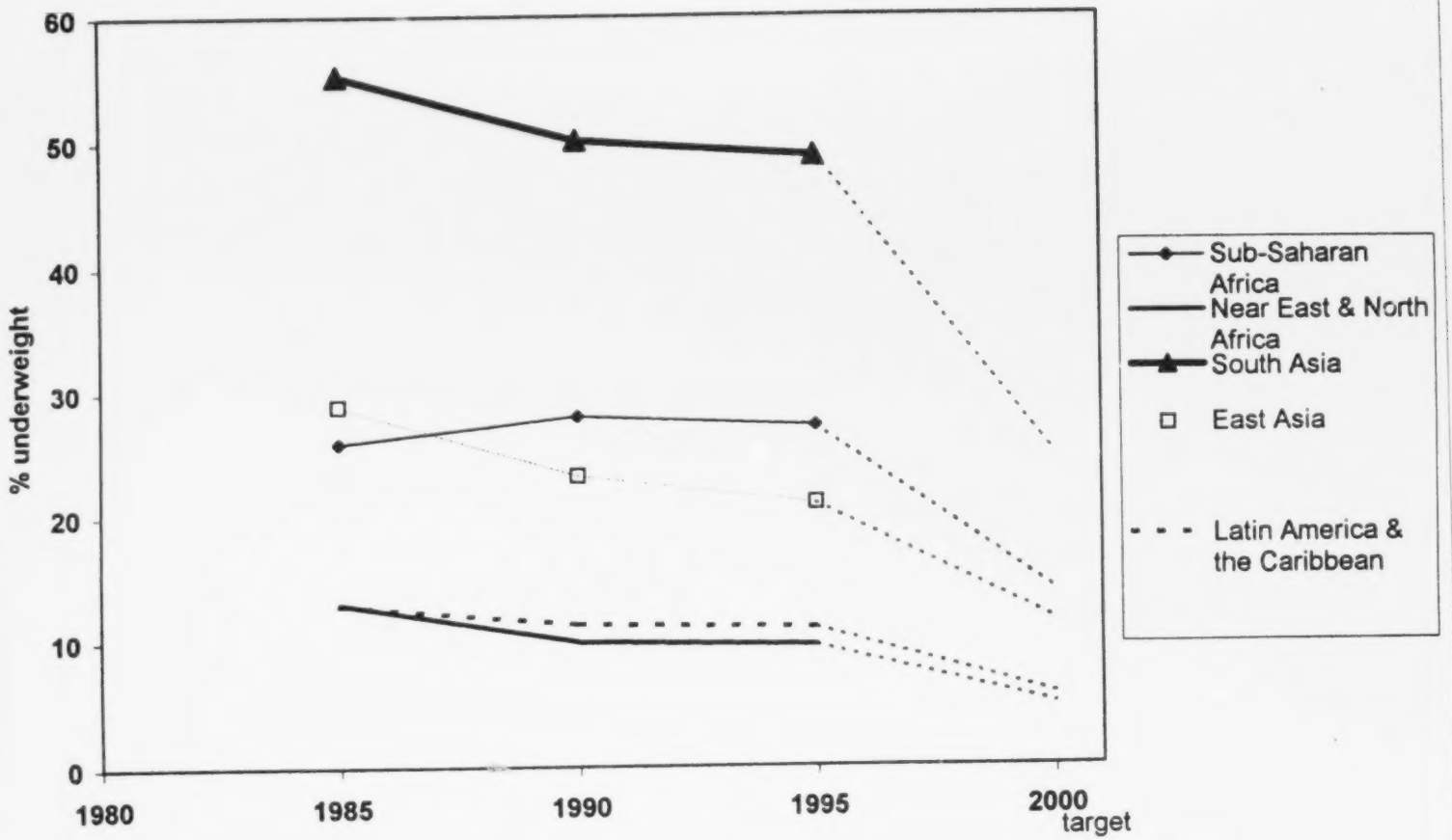
D. Water and sanitation

26. The Summit goal of universal access to safe drinking water and safe environmental sanitation by the year 2000 was endorsed by Agenda 21. Based on the data collected through the Joint Monitoring Programme of UNICEF and WHO in 1994, the Secretary-General, in his report entitled, "Progress made in providing safe water supply and sanitation for all during the first half of the 1990s" (A/50/213), observed that progress fell far short of this goal. Rapid urbanization, increasing population and investment costs and poor maintenance of established systems have made progress slow and sometimes unsustainable. Difficulties in collecting clear and comparable data, varying definitions of access and a lack of clear indicators add to the constraints in analysing situations and predicting trends. According to the most recent data, some 1.4 billion people in developing countries did not have access to safe drinking water in the mid-1990s and 2.7 billion lacked access to adequate sanitation.

27. Universal access to safe water and sanitation would have a significant impact on reducing under-five mortality, as WHO attributes about 3 million child deaths per year to

Table 2

Child malnutrition (below five years of age)



Source:
Administrative Committee on Coordination/Subcommittee on Nutrition.

a lack of hygiene and sanitation. However, access to safe drinking water and sanitary facilities for excreta disposal is effective in reducing child morbidity and mortality only when combined with programmes promoting behavioural change in personal hygiene and environmental sanitation. A synergistic approach to child survival, development and protection at family and community levels is required to address issues of water, environmental sanitation, hygiene, health, nutrition and education. One example is the promotion of hand-washing before food intake or the preparation of food for babies by mothers, which can reduce disease transmission by up to 50 per cent.

28. At its special session on safe drinking water and environmental sanitation in 1997, the General Assembly identified freshwater as one of the most important topics to be taken up by the United Nations system for a renewed initiative. The Commission on Sustainable Development supported the recommendations of the ACC Subcommittee on Water Resources for a comprehensive approach to policy and programming, that is, promotion of sound sectoral policies, improved sectoral coordination, participation of key users and other stakeholders in planning, implementation and monitoring of community projects, adequate financing of programmes from various sources and strengthening of information management. The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for the Water and Sanitation Sector, a programme that has committed UNICEF, WHO and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council to assist countries in developing national capacities for monitoring, is expected to contribute to the process of monitoring and reporting on the goals for water and sanitation between now and 2001.

E. Basic education

29. The Summit goal is to ensure universal access to basic education and completion of primary education by at least 80 per cent of primary school-age children by 2000. Since 1990, the proportion of children in primary school has continued to increase in all regions. According to available data, the Middle East and North Africa, East Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Central and Eastern Europe, CIS and the Baltic States and the industrialized countries have achieved, or are close to achieving, the goal of universal access by the year 2000. Many countries in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, however, will have great difficulty in achieving the goal. Of the estimated 130 million children who are not in primary school in developing countries, nearly 100 million are in these two regions. The goal for primary school completion has been even more challenging because of high population growth rates and continuing high rates of school drop-outs. Only about 60 per cent of children who enter first grade in South Asia, two thirds in sub-Saharan Africa and three quarters in Latin America and the Caribbean reach grade five. The quality and relevance of primary education continue to be major challenges. In response, much greater attention is being given to learning processes in classrooms and to learning outcomes. Educational systems must be flexible to accommodate different learning needs.

30. The new emphasis on education as a basic human right is changing the programming perspective. Accountability of Governments to ensure basic education for all is recognized and greater emphasis is being placed on partnerships with civil society, including the private sector, non-governmental organizations, religious organizations, parental and community groups. Governments are increasingly recognizing the importance of community-based early childhood care and development. The World Bank and a number of United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and UNICEF, now focus their support to Governments more on the key areas of: girls' education; educational content and processes; HIV/AIDS education; education services in emergencies and for reconstruction; intersectoral links between education and health, nutrition and water and sanitation; measurement of learning achievement; and the use of electronic communication technologies for education.

F. Special protection

31. The Declaration of the World Summit for Children highlighted the need to improve "the situation of children in especially difficult circumstances" without quantifying a specific global goal. With the near universal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the need for a comprehensive approach to protecting the child from abuse, involvement in hazardous activities and exploitation, special protection of children has received added attention. During the second half of the 1990s, there have been efforts at national and international levels to better understand the complexities of special protection issues, the underlying causes and the steps required to eliminate or eradicate the problems. Several initiatives have been supported, such as efforts to return child labourers to the education system, raise the age of recruitment into armed forces to 18 years, work with children and families with HIV/AIDS or those

disabled by landmines and support Governments in developing child-centred juvenile justice systems. In addition, a recent UNICEF review of 75 countries indicates that in 58 countries special protection measures have been mainstreamed in ongoing programmes for education, health, early childhood care and development, social mobilization and community-based integrated development. This reflects a major shift from efforts in the mid-1980s, which often reflected a fragmented approach to dealing with issues of "children in difficult circumstances".

32. This shift has been supported in the agendas of the International Conference on Child Labour held at Oslo from 27 to 30 October 1997, and the Amsterdam Child Labour Conference, held from 26 to 27 February 1997. The Agenda for Action adopted in Oslo has led to the preparation of country- and region-specific plans of action and greater collaboration between the International Labour Organization (ILO), UNICEF, the World Bank and a number of international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for strengthening national capacities to monitor and analyse the situation with a view to developing strategies for the eradication of child labour. The 1996 World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Stockholm) raised awareness and resulted in a number of initiatives which include: the establishment of a global NGO Support Group for information exchange; and a closer collaboration of the United Nations agencies with the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as with the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

33. Increasing collaboration and coordination within the United Nations system is a feature of this approach. For example, focusing on advocacy, capacity-building and psycho-social interventions to support children victimized by armed conflicts, refugee and displaced children, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF, Save the Children Alliance and other partners have responded to the recommendations of the Graça Machel study (A/51/306 and Add.1) and resolution 51/77 adopted by the General Assembly on 12 December 1996. Their support and technical assistance provided to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict is a further example. Guidelines for multisectoral collaboration to provide opportunities to children with disabilities are being developed by an inter-agency group that includes the International Labour Organization (ILO), UNESCO, UNICEF and WHO. The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS is addressing the monumental issue of children orphaned by AIDS and focuses on healthy life styles and life skills education for young people.

34. The global concern for children requiring special protection measures is also evident in the drafting process of two optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on raising the age of recruitment into armed forces and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography; in the proposed ILO convention to eradicate the most intolerable forms of child labour; in the adoption of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, signed at Ottawa on 30 September 1997; and in the discussion of the establishment of an International Criminal Court.

35. Information and data on the scope and magnitude of children in need of special protection measures were rarely available in the early 1990s and strategies to address the issues were far from fully developed. The United Nations Children's Fund employed a qualitative approach to review progress towards the global goal, based on a set of proxy indicators, including ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the inclusion of child protection concerns in national programmes of action and the mobilization of civil society around child rights (E/ICEF/1998/CRP.11). The review indicated that there is an increasing level of acknowledgement and awareness of children who need special protection. Several Governments from both developing and industrialized countries have formulated specific strategies and plans relevant to the situations of these children and national and region-specific goals have been defined. Efforts to further develop child rights indicators and to gather disaggregated data continue to ensure that the most disadvantaged and least visible children feature in planning and policy decisions in the future.

VI. Meeting the challenge of achieving the goals of the World Summit for Children by the end of the decade: priorities for 1998–2000

36. The present report has been forthright in assessing progress and in highlighting the remaining challenges to achieve the end-decade goals, particularly in the least developed countries. While infant and child mortality have continued to decline in recent years in all regions, the pace of progress has been too weak to result in a significant reduction of the 12 million annual deaths, the majority of

which could be easily prevented. Progress towards reducing child malnutrition and maternal mortality and in increasing access to water, sanitation and primary education, particularly for girls, has also been weak. The commitment to children made at the World Summit for Children in 1990 must be renewed and re-energized. All Governments must make all possible efforts to achieve the goals or to come as close as possible to achieving them and to continue the progressive realization of children's rights. In these efforts, the contributions of civil society, the private sector and the international community, including the United Nations system, must be mobilized to the fullest extent possible. Experience shows that when political commitment is strong, resources are made available, communities are mobilized and sound policies and programmes are implemented, there can be notable progress for children, even within a relatively short period of two to three years.

37. The most critical tasks ahead in each country are: (a) to assess the current situation of children and women on a goal-by-goal basis; (b) to organize reviews and policy discussions; (c) to analyse the fundamental factors affecting the situations of children and women preventing further progress; and (d) to devise strategies and allocate adequate resources to deal with these factors, while using available technologies and proven approaches to tackle the immediate causes hindering the realization of children's rights.

38. Governments have a central role to play in this process by ensuring access for all children and families to basic social services through national policies and plans, including the maximum possible budgetary allocations. It would also include the implementation and monitoring of plans and programmes and the provision of safety nets for the most vulnerable groups and families who are being left behind in the competitive world of globalization or who are victims of emergencies. In recognition of the roles that civil society, including families and communities, can and do play in social and economic development, solutions should be informed by a participatory decision-making process and enhanced ownership and sustainability of activities and outcomes for children.

39. The task of achieving the end-decade goals is more complex and multisectoral compared with some of the mid-decade goals. The latter focused mainly on sectoral programming approaches and called for the mobilization of multiple partnerships for implementing and monitoring essentially top-down national programmes. Achieving the end-decade goals requires not only sustainability of service delivery and support systems, but also a greater degree of participation and behavioural change at individual, family and community levels and an improved policy environment, at both the international and national levels.

40. Many factors, most of them country-specific, explain the difficulties in achieving some of the Summit goals, but one reason stands out in virtually all countries: the resources allocated to basic social services are inadequate to achieve universal coverage within the agreed time-frame. Recent estimates suggest that global expenditures on these services will have to increase by about 60 per cent to ensure universal coverage. At the current level of spending, it would be unrealistic to expect that the targets for U5MR, maternal mortality, child malnutrition, water and sanitation and basic education can be achieved in all countries by the year 2000, even when taking into account the opportunities for greater efficiency in the delivery of services. Based on this rationale, the 20/20 Initiative, launched at the 1995 World Summit for Social Development, calls on Governments to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of their national budgets and aid flows to basic social services. In the absence of such budget and aid restructuring, children of poor and vulnerable households will continue to be the first victims of hunger, disease and ignorance, and the cycle of poverty will continue.

41. The Governments of the Netherlands and Norway organized an international meeting on the implementation of the 20/20 Initiative in Oslo in 1996. The meeting acknowledged that better monitoring of budget expenditures and donor contributions to basic services will be required for the implementation of the Initiative and recommended support for building capacities to gather and analyse data on public expenditures for social services. With the support of United Nations agencies, studies in several countries are being conducted to prepare for an agreement on a 20/20 compact. Six United Nations agencies have prepared a booklet on the 20/20 Initiative in preparation for the second international meeting on the implementation of the initiative, to be held in Hanoi, Viet Nam, in October 1998, and co-sponsored by the Governments of the Netherlands, Norway and Viet Nam.

VII. A coordinated response by the United Nations system

42. The 1990s will be remembered for the international conferences and world summits that have developed a broad consensus on global social, economic and environmental issues with the over-arching objective of eradicating poverty. The declarations and action plans emanating from these events constitute a holistic, internationally agreed development agenda for the next century. They call for a key

role of Governments and represent an important basis for the support of the United Nations system through its normative and operational activities at country level.

43. While each of the agendas represents negotiated commitments on the part of all United Nations Member States and specific strategies derived from collective experience, many have endorsed and incorporated the goals of the World Summit for Children. They have facilitated an open political debate on a comprehensive agenda for reducing poverty, promoting human development and fostering respect for human rights, involving Governments, civil society and United Nations agencies. In the context of agreed goals, they have identified common cross-cutting themes, including access to basic social services, the protection of human rights and the rights of children and women in particular.

44. In endorsing the agenda set by the World Summit for Children, the subsequent conferences and summits have also extended target dates for achieving child-related goals into the first decade of the twenty-first century. In this context, for instance, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the World Summit for Social Development have identified 2015 as a target date. The report by the Development Assistance Committee, *Shaping the 21st Century*, also set 2015 as the deadline for achieving the goals of universal primary education, reduction by two thirds in the mortality of infants and children under the age of five years, reduction by three fourths in maternal mortality, universal access to reproductive health services, gender equity and the halving of extreme poverty. There is now a need to express these goals in a new global and comprehensive agenda for children, with updated goals, quantifiable targets and appropriate strategies to guide national action.

45. Since 1995, the Economic and Social Council and the Administrative Committee on Coordination have underscored the strong linkages and common themes among the programmes of action of the various global conferences and stressed the need for coordinated and integrated follow-up. At the same time, in view of the specific country situations and agency expertise, there needs to be some diversity in the response pattern at the country level. With a view to providing the resident coordinator system and country teams with coherent system-wide guidance for support to Governments in their follow-up activities, in October 1995 the Administrative Committee on Coordination established three ad hoc inter-agency task forces on: (a) basic social services for all; (b) employment and sustainable livelihoods; and (c) an enabling environment for social and economic development. Using the work of the three task forces and inputs from other parts of the subsidiary machinery, the Administrative Committee on Coordination developed a guidance note for the resident coordinator system, which was transmitted to all field duty stations.

46. At the country level, the recent reforms in the operational activities of the United Nations, the introduction of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, the strengthening of the resident coordinator system and the establishment of the United Nations Development Group have added a new dimension to the implementation of the agendas and plans of action. The goals and targets of the World Summit for Children are being used in the development of a core set of indicators being prepared as part of the Common Country Assessment and are an integral part of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework. These recent developments have provided increased opportunities for collaboration among United Nations partners in promoting an agenda for children and the realization of their rights as part of the agenda for development, and to support countries in their achievement of the World Summit for Children's goals as part of the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up to all conferences. The Development Assistance Framework is expected to serve as the framework for the country programmes of the individual participating agencies and will provide an opportunity to enhance inter-agency cooperation at country level in assisting Governments and civil society through provision of technical and financial support, and advocacy and mobilization to strengthen national capacities.

47. The Plan of Action adopted at the World Summit for Children, in paragraph 35, called for the full cooperation and collaboration of relevant United Nations agencies and organs in achieving the goals of the national programmes of action developed by Governments as follow-up to the Summit. The Plan of Action specifically recognized the role of UNICEF in analysing and monitoring the actions undertaken by individual countries and the international community. Similarly, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in article 45, encouraged international cooperation and recognized the role of United Nations agencies in supporting implementation of the Convention, within their respective mandates. The General Assembly, in resolution 51/186, specifically recognized the leadership role of UNICEF in supporting the follow-up to the World Summit for Children. The United Nations Children's Fund has supported Governments in preparing national programmes of action and in achieving and monitoring the goals of the Summit. The Fund is working with its partners on follow-up to the World Summit for Children through the end of the decade

and is looking beyond 2000 to promote a global agenda for children for the next century.

VIII. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly in 2001 to review achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children

48. Governmental procedures, and those internal to UNICEF, are under way for the end-decade review and will intensify as 2001 approaches. The most critical tasks will be at the national and subnational levels where an assessment of the current situation of children will be required, followed by appropriate analyses, reviews and policy discussions. Beyond the national level, regional conferences will need to be organized. Each region has established an ongoing process to review progress towards the goals of the World Summit for Children. At mid-decade, high-level meetings were organized in Latin America and the Caribbean and East Asia and the Pacific, following national reviews. Both regions are planning to hold similar conferences late in 1998 to review progress towards the end-decade goals and to prepare national and regional agendas for children beyond 2000. As a follow-up to the goals established in 1992 by the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), which were identical to the Summit goals, annual reports from member countries have been presented to the SAARC health and population committee and a regional end-decade review is being planned by the SAARC secretariat. Similar efforts will undoubtedly be undertaken in other regions. In these regional efforts, there is increasing cooperation among United Nations agencies, including the regional commissions, which have a particular role in convening high-level meetings for reviewing the implementation and follow-up to world summits and global conferences.

49. It is envisaged that national reviews between 1998 and 2000 will be based primarily on socio-economic and demographic indicators and data being collected through multiple indicator cluster surveys and other survey instruments. Building upon the experience gained in conducting the multiple indicator cluster surveys in 1995, an even larger effort will be required to support more countries and to include additional issues such as vitamin A levels in blood, learning achievement of adolescents and the current U5MR. Appropriate tools and methodologies must be developed, drawing upon what has already been tried and tested. Training and technical support must be provided to countries and additional resources mobilized for this global monitoring exercise. Equally important is the strengthening of partnerships with Governments, non-governmental organizations, United Nations agencies, other international organizations and bilateral partners established during the World Summit for Children and reinforced since then, particularly during the mid-decade assessment.

50. Between 1998 and 2000, there will be several opportunities to review progress towards the goals of the World Summit for Children, particularly the series of meetings planned for follow-up to the global conferences. These include the "International Conference on Population and Development + 5" review in 1999 and, in 2000, the global review of education for all, the five-year review of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the World Summit for Social Development and the follow-up to the Graça Machel study, as well as the Millennium Assembly. It is expected that all of the subnational, national and regional reviews of follow-up to the international conferences, including the World Summit for Children, will feed into a global review process, which in turn will prepare groundwork for the assessment of progress at end-decade by the General Assembly. This work is expected to help strengthen national capacities for the collection, analysis and use of data and to provide accurate and disaggregated social indicators by gender, age and geographic area. The tenth anniversary of the adoption and entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of the Child will add a special dimension to this process.

51. Other types of activities and discussion forums will be organized at national, regional and global levels. The possibilities will range from specific thematic debates by experts to larger discussion forums organized with non-governmental organizations, the media and other partners.

52. The Permanent Representatives to the United Nations of the six countries that initiated the World Summit for Children – Canada, Egypt, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan and Sweden – have held initial discussions with UNICEF to prepare a plan for the international review of progress that will culminate in the special session of the General Assembly in 2001. The United Nations Children's Fund, in consultation with other United Nations agencies, is coordinating the planning process at country, regional and global levels. It is possible that an additional international event, as yet undefined, will mark the historic review in 2001. Particular attention will be given to the participation of civil society, and especially of children themselves. In collaboration with Governments and United Nations partners, UNICEF is working to develop an agenda for

children for the first decade of the next millennium that builds on the experience of the 1990s.

53. The comprehensive report to be submitted by the Secretary-General to the special session of the General Assembly will provide an overall assessment of progress achieved during the decade, including lessons learned, an analysis of the main factors that have inhibited progress for children and an overview of the remaining challenges and key issues, followed by specific recommendations for the future. The entire review process will pave the way for shaping and implementing a new agenda for children for the next century. This process will provide a unique opportunity for the world community to renew its commitment to a better future for its children.

54. The way in which a community, be it at the local, national or international level, treats its children, particularly the neediest and most vulnerable children, is among the strongest criteria for assessing its sense of moral imperative. As several of the promises made at the Summit remain unfulfilled, it is time to renew the pledge on behalf of the world's children, in particular the poorest and most disadvantaged.

55. The 1990s began with two powerful acts of mobilization on behalf of children: the agreement on the World Declaration and the Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children and the entry into force of the Convention of the Rights of the Child. As the end of the decade draws near, Governments will need to adjust their targets, refine their strategies and assign priority resources so as to keep the Summit's promises and to progressively realize the rights of children. Achieving the goals is not only morally imperative, it is also economically rational. Never before has there been greater consensus on the need to focus on investing in children. The costs of meeting the goals are estimated to represent less than 1 per cent of global output. This modest investment can ensure a healthy, long and productive life for each and every child, which would also lay the foundations for economic growth in the years ahead. Seldom has the international community had an investment opportunity that is so noble in its objective and so productive in its outcome.

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Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session: United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General hereby transmits to the General Assembly the report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on the Activities of the Institute for the period from July 1997 to June 1998 (see annex I) and the report of the Board of Trustees of the Institute containing its proposed programme of work for 1998-1999 (see annex II).

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Annex I

Report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on the Activities of the Institute for the period from July 1997 to June 1998

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I. Introduction

1. The United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) is an autonomous research institute within the framework of the United Nations. The Institute was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/83 M of 11 December 1979 for the purpose of undertaking independent research on issues of disarmament and international security.

2. The present report is submitted to the General Assembly in pursuance of paragraph 6 of its resolution 39/148 H of 17 December 1984, and paragraph 6 of its resolution 45/62 G of 4 December 1990, in which the Director was invited to report annually to the Assembly on the activities carried out by the Institute. The present report is for the period from July 1997 to June 1998.[a] It thus covers activities carried out until 10 October 1997 under the Deputy Director, Mr. Christophe Carle, and thereafter under the new Director, Mrs. Patricia Lewis.

II. Management and staffing

3. The work of UNIDIR is carried out with a dedicated but small staff: a director, a deputy director, a head of political affairs, an administrative assistant, a specialized secretary for publications, researchers and editors. Currently the staff is small, but growing, the majority of staff being employed on short-term contracts. A stronger core staff is needed to reinforce the Institute's internal research as well as its capacity to sustain work carried out elsewhere. All attempts are being made to increase UNIDIR's core and project income, so that staff can be put on longer-term contracts and be more adequately remunerated.

4. The Institute holds weekly staff meetings, monthly research meetings and, since November 1997, has carried out two strategic planning meetings. Equality of opportunity, skills training and staff appraisal are high on the management agenda.

III. Subvention from the United Nations regular budget

5. While efforts are continuing to increase the portion of administrative costs in tied contributions, non-earmarked money remains scarce. A subvention is therefore also necessary for the coming biennium. Such a subvention, which is used to cover the costs of the regular staff, including the Director, is important, not only economically, but also to ensure the independence of the Institute. It is important to note that for several years the subvention has not been adjusted for inflation while the salaries have been adjusted. In 1996 and 1997, the subvention was temporarily reduced from $220,000 to $213,000. The latter sum has also been repeated for the biennium 1998-1999. It is UNIDIR's hope that it will be possible to increase the subvention in line with inflation so that its value does not continue to decrease.

6. In view of the importance of the United Nations subvention, the matter should be kept under review as part of the effort to facilitate growth in voluntary income and attempts to ensure that it returns to its previous level and is adjusted for inflation should be undertaken.

IV. Current and planned activities

7. The Institute's research programme, as approved and extended by previous meetings of the Board, comprises four main headings:

(a) Collective security in the framework of the United Nations;

(b) Regional security;

(c) Non-proliferation;

(d) Fourth special session on disarmament of the General Assembly.

8. This report classifies the projects under these headings and gives information as to their current status: in development, in progress or reaching conclusion.

A. Collective security

1. Disarmament, development and conflict prevention

9. Work on disarmament, development and conflict prevention continues to focus, in the first instance, on the case of West Africa. To address the complex interrelationship between security, the flow of arms and socio-economic problems, phase one of the project has proceeded from a "security-first" perspective: an inquiry into ways of improving the security situation in West African countries as a prerequisite for implementing development projects. The experience of Mali in preventing full-scale conflict and in connecting the need for peacemaking and economic development has provided fertile ground for a

joint UNIDIR-United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) project. The research project has thus far produced a book in English and an updated edition in French is in progress. The English edition of the book was launched in March 1998. One of the focal points for the research has been the idea, under discussion since the regional conference held at Bamako from 25 to 29 November 1996, of a moratorium on the import, export and manufacture of light weapons in West Africa. Regional discussion of the Mali experience is the focus for the next phase of this aspect of UNIDIR's work (under development with funds being requested).

10. In addition, an analysis of the experience in Mali entitled "Arms management and conflict transformation in Mali" is being carried out by the Conflict Transformation Working Group of the University of Helsinki. This project is in progress and should reach conclusion in the autumn of 1998.

2. Blue Helmets, disarmament and humanitarian missions

11. There are a number of intricate problems with the interface between civil and military Blue Helmets contingents and humanitarian agencies. One such study is currently being undertaken by UNIDIR in collaboration with the Institute for Security Studies (Pretoria). The study examines current efforts to develop African capacities to undertake peacekeeping and peace enforcement operations. Particular attention is being paid to the Security Council's growing tendency to sub-contract the promotion of peace and security to others and to the "capacity-building" efforts of both Western and African countries, as well as the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations. This project will reach its conclusion in the autumn of 1998.

3. Modern technologies in the service of peace

12. Modern technologies can be used to enhance preventive diplomacy, strengthen confidence-building arrangements and make peace operations more effective. The Institute is discussing possibilities of this nature with other organizations that possess special technological expertise, in an effort to bridge the gap between modern technologies and the needs of confidence-building, preventive diplomacy, and peace operations. This project is in the early stages of development.

4. Light weapons/small arms

13. A common denominator in the collective security issues discussed above is the dissemination of light weapons. The United Nations is at the forefront of stronger efforts to control light weapons, the weapons which are used to inflict most of the casualties in contemporary conflicts. Yet, much remains to be done in this field. The Institute has been studying the issue of light weapons/small arms for some time. Future approaches by UNIDIR will take into account the conclusions and the needs identified by the Panel of Governmental Experts on Small Arms in its report to the General Assembly of 1997 (A/52/298).

14. UNIDIR is currently undertaking a study on issues related to small arms ammunition, in coordination with the Department for Disarmament Affairs in New York. The Deputy Director of UNIDIR, Mr. Christophe Carle, is a member of the Study Group on Ammunition and Explosives, as is Colonel Ilkka Tiihonen of Finland, who will be joining UNIDIR in the autumn of 1998. This study is an input to the work of the Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms. Its aim is to provide solid and comprehensive grounds on which to assess whether and how the control of ammunition can contribute to efforts to stop the dissemination and use of small arms. Rigorous technical information and analysis of ammunition production and trade, of marking and other means of tracking ammunition is needed in order to enable an assessment of practical policy options. The issue of ammunition will be the guiding thread for UNIDIR research on small arms, which may include other activities such as regional seminars, notably on regional dimensions of the problem.

15. UNIDIR is currently developing projects in Latin America, notably in cooperation with Brazil and with Argentina, on the issue of illegal trafficking of small arms.

B. Regional security

16. In recent years, regional security studies at UNIDIR have largely focused on the Middle East. Since 1996, other studies have been undertaken in West Africa and Latin America, and, to a lesser extent thus far, in Asia. A diversification of regional security studies will be pursued in 1998, with special emphasis on Asia.

1. The Middle East

17. The Institute and the Cooperative Monitoring Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico, are co-hosting a workshop on the potential uses of commercial satellite imagery for promoting peace and development in the Middle East. The meeting will discuss three main areas where remote sensing technology might be employed: (a) arms control, (b) environmental and natural resources and (c) economic development.

18. The meeting will be held at Geneva in the late summer of 1998 and will bring together 30 to 35 experts in remote sensing technology and security and development in the Middle East. A report summarizing the trends of the discussions and giving an analysis of the potentials of remote sensing technology for building peace and economic development in the Middle East will be published by UNIDIR and the Cooperative Monitoring Center. This project is in progress.

19. The Institute has also been developing a satellite atlas of the Middle East. The idea behind the atlas is to provide a fresh perspective on the peace process by focusing on areas of current or potential cooperation between Middle Eastern neighbours. The proposed project aims to raise interest and awareness among the general public about the ongoing difficulties in the region, but would also serve as a useful reference tool for the diplomatic and academic communities. Funding is currently being sought for the project, which is in its last stages of development.

2. Africa

20. The Institute will continue to address issues of peace-building, disarmament and small arms control in West Africa. The Institute will seek to work with local researchers, as a contribution to the training of a new generation of African experts on security and disarmament matters. These activities, both in Geneva and in West Africa, should be carried out in parallel with the efforts to implement a moratorium on small arms trade and manufacture in the subregion. Work undertaken on West Africa since 1996 (see paras. 9 and 10 above) may lend itself to broadening to other subregions or to comparative research on the basis of work undertaken by other research institutions in east, central or southern Africa. This project is under development: UNIDIR has submitted funding proposals to a number of sources.

3. Asia

21. The evolution of security issues in the Asia-Pacific region will be crucial not just for the States of the region themselves, but also for the future of international security from a global perspective. Opportunities for cooperation with the United Nations Regional Centre in Nepal will be investigated, but work on this region will require strengthening the core staff in Geneva and recruiting additional visiting fellows to undertake research at UNIDIR. The Institute is developing a project to recruit visiting research fellows from the region (see below under section VII) in order that they may be able to work collectively on Asian security concerns.

4. Cross-regional perspectives

22. The UNIDIR seminar on "Illegal Traffic of Small Arms and Sensitive Technologies", held from 23 to 25 April 1997 at Buenos Aires, underlined the relationship between narcotraffic and terrorism and the threat they pose to the stability of States through access to small arms or materials related to weapons of mass destruction. The Institute is currently advancing this work through a project addressing the problem of small arms and their effect on societies in Latin America. This research is being undertaken by a visiting expert on the UNIDIR research fellowship programme. Further work addressing this topic in other regions and between regions is in development.

C. Non-proliferation studies

1. Implementation and verification

23. For the foreseeable future, the full implementation of existing disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements will be a crucial and demanding task. Verified implementation is and will remain an essential means of building trust and therefore security. UNIDIR is developing a project for a series of seminars with international treaty-implementing organizations such as the Comprehensive Test-Ban Treaty Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in order to highlight common interests and problems, encourage ratification and implementation and promote dialogue between practitioners. In addition, for one year, from June 1998 to June 1999, UNIDIR is hosting a visiting fellow to work on the implementation of the

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (Biological Weapons Convention). This work, which is in progress, will lead to a conference and two publications.

2. Disarmament and future security

24. The immediate prospects for fruitful multilateral negotiations on disarmament and non-proliferation appear uncertain. However, UNIDIR is looking beyond the short-term agenda into future options for arms reduction and disarmament, notably in the nuclear field. In particular, attention will be devoted to forward-looking and practical analyses of ways of ensuring that progressively lower levels of armaments (notably nuclear) do result in enhanced security. A series of UNIDIR informal discussions meetings in 1998 are focused on the problems within the Conference on Disarmament.

25. The Institute is planning to undertake two short studies on the possible limitations on the production of fissile materials. The first study will report on the amounts and possession of the stocks of fissile material now present in the world. The second study will analyse the disarmament and non-proliferation aspects of the proposals for banning the production of fissile materials for weapons purposes. This project is in development.

26. As part of UNIDIR's mandate to assist in disarmament negotiations and provide information to the international community, the Institute is producing a handbook on arms control and disarmament terms. The handbook will provide a useful addition to current literature and feed into multilateral negotiations and peace processes throughout the world. The book is to be published in English and in Arabic, in order to further assist the peace process in the Middle East. This project is in progress and due for completion in September 1998.

3. Nuclear-weapon-free zones

27. The Institute will continue to explore the future of nuclear-weapon-free zones. In particular UNIDIR is developing a project on the proposed nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia.

4. Lessons from the United Nations Special Commission on Iraq

28. Following the most recent difficulties that the United Nations Special Commission on Iraq (UNSCOM) has had to resolve, UNIDIR intends to prepare an account and assessment of the achievements of UNSCOM. The focus would be on lessons learned in terms of inspections and verification and on a discussion of their applicability to different situations. Particular attention would be paid to the role of the threat of the use of force and the implications of those findings to the role of the United Nations in disarmament. This project will be developed over the longer term.

5. Transparency and restraint in arms transfers

29. The debates in recent meetings organized by UNIDIR in various regions (Africa, Asia and Latin America) have stressed the issue of transparency in arms transfers. As part of this approach, UNIDIR is now carrying out a study on the transfer of dual-use space technologies. This is work in progress and should be completed by early 1999.

6. The costs of disarmament and arms reductions

30. Since the 1987 Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Nuclear Missiles, the cost of implementing arms reduction and disarmament agreements has been a major issue for a number of countries. The Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty, signed in 1990, gave the European States a taste of the financial and resource difficulties already being faced by the Russian Federation and the United States of America. Since then the costs of implementation, resulting from both arms destruction and treaty verification obligations, have been of increasing concern in multilateral and bilateral negotiations. The costs incurred in setting up the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons played a significant part in the debate on the implementation provisions of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and Their Destruction (the Ottawa Convention). Such concerns are now having an additional effect in the

negotiations over the compliance measures for the Biological Weapons Convention.

31. The Institute aims to take key countries as examples and carefully research what their commitments to disarmament treaties mean to them in terms of financial and resource costs. In addition, we will try to ascertain what each country perceives are the benefits brought to them through their participation in the agreements and whether there is consensus that there is a net gain to the State in question. It is likely that there will be quite different attitudes among the States. The aim of the project is to achieve a better understanding of the costs and benefits of disarmament agreements, with a view to assisting policy makers in deciding how money is spent on such commitments, which budget lines are best structured to handle such spending and how States could approach this aspect of negotiations in the future. This project is in development.

7. Anti-personnel mines

32. The Ottawa Convention on Anti-Personnel Mines contains extensive provision for information gathering, fact-finding, transparency measures and compliance of procedures. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) were a driving force behind the agreement. These energetic organs of civil society will be part of the implementation and compliance process, but the mechanisms for including NGOs need to be carefully considered. The Institute has submitted funding proposals to carry out a project to consider such issues as the type of information that can be collected by NGOs and journalists, how to ascertain the quality of that information and the need to examine the potential role of experts from NGOs in fact-finding missions. The involvement of civil society will be critical in the successful implementation of the Convention and could be a turning point in the way all future agreements are hence negotiated. This project is in development for the longer term.

33. Following UNIDIR's successful collaboration with the Joint Research Centre in Ispra, Italy, on the special issue of the *NewsLetter* on landmines, we are now discussing and developing further joint projects, which may include the production of a landmine atlas. UNIDIR is attending the meetings of the Committee of Advisers: Detection of Mines based on Operational Standard (CADMOS), which take place in Ispra.

V. Fourth special session on disarmament

34. A fourth special session on disarmament is expected to provide a unique opportunity to review and reflect upon disarmament efforts. This is particularly the case since the present international setting has undergone considerable change since the third special session was held in 1988. The significance and success of another special session depend very much on the intensity and scope of the preparatory debate and in setting the agenda. The Institute will contribute to its preparation in different ways. We shall hold meetings and electronic conferences on opening up the agenda so that the special session does not merely rehearse old arguments and result in some form of stalemate. Rather, the fourth special session could be a focus for new ideas and approaches to disarmament. UNIDIR will place a great deal of emphasis on helping to formulate the questions that should be asked at the special session, channelling all our work on disarmament and security issues into our thinking for this event.

35. To this end, the Institute has set up an electronic conference site, which can be accessed through the UNIDIR web site, designed specifically to draw opinion and debate from a wide section of the international community on the current key questions in disarmament and security. This phase of the project, which is in progress, will reach conclusion towards the end of 1998.

VI. Cooperation with and among research institutes

36. Four recurrent activities come under this heading:

(a) Maintenance and development of UNIDIR's computerized information and documentation system, DATARIS, on who is doing what in the field of security and disarmament research. The database, with over 1,200 references, is currently being overhauled and is scheduled to be on line by September 1998;

(b) Publication of the quarterly UNIDIR *NewsLetter*;

(c) Convening of regional conferences, held with the dual purpose of examining region-specific issues of security, arms control and disarmament and of fostering cooperation with and among research institutes in the areas concerned;

(d) Convening of conferences and other smaller group activities in support of initiatives aimed at improving

communication and access to data. New technologies can assist in fostering closer research networks and cooperation.

37. The Institute provides an electronic forum for research institutes, national and international organizations working in the area of disarmament and international security to become more familiar with one another. Electronic conferences can alleviate the financial and time expenditures normally associated with international conferences. The electronic conference held jointly with the Henry L. Stimson Center (Washington, D.C.) in January is an example of such an activity.

38. In cooperation with the Quaker United Nations Office and the Geneva Graduate Institute of International Studies, UNIDIR has set up an occasional venue for information and informal discussion among the diplomatic and research communities in Geneva: the Geneva Forum. Invited experts speak on a topical subject, followed by questions and open discussion. The project has now received funding to invite a number of speakers to Geneva to address controlling the spread of small arms.

VII. United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research Fellowship Programme

39. The Institute has a Fellowship Programme for scholars from developing countries. Fellowships last from 3 to 12 months and the projects are integrated into ongoing research projects. They represent a significant strengthening of the research base in Geneva. The programme also ensures the participation of researchers on "an equitable political and geographical basis" (art. II, para. 3, of the UNIDIR statute).

40. UNIDIR intends to extend its visiting fellowship programme so that, rather than two or three scholars per year each for three-month periods, as has been the case recently, there would be six or more researchers for periods of six months. The focus of their research would be regional security and the Institute hopes to group together researchers from a particular region during one period. The project is in development. A fund-raising proposal has been submitted to help fund and manage the Fellowship Programme.

VIII. Publications

41. Currently UNIDIR publishes a quarterly *NewsLetter*, research reports and research papers. UNIDIR will continue to publish the same range of material, but is making some changes to the way in which the publications are presented and distributed. The *NewsLetter*, which has evolved into a serious journal, is to be renamed *Disarmament Forum*. This name change will take place at the end of 1998 for issue 40, which will also mark the tenth anniversary of the *NewsLetter*. The *NewsLetter* is being extensively distributed to bring UNIDIR's work to a wider audience.

42. Along with each research report and paper, short summary papers are now being produced to inform those who do not have the time to read all of UNIDIR's longer publications. Called *UNIDIR Briefs*, each contains a summary of the main findings of the research publication and, where appropriate, policy recommendations. UNIDIR hopes eventually to be able to produce the *UNIDIR Briefs* in all six official languages of the United Nations. In addition to being redesigned, the book-length publications will be more selectively distributed and, where possible, sold. *UNIDIR Briefs*, however, which contain the essential information from these publications, will be widely distributed throughout the world. all of UNIDIR's publications are currently being redesigned in order to make them more accessible to a wider readership.

43. A list of UNIDIR publications for the period from July 1997 to July 1998 is contained in the appendix to the present report.

Notes

[a] For the previous reports on the activities of the Institute, see A/38/475, A/39/553, A/40/725, A/41/676, A/42/607, A/43/686, A/44/421, A/45/392, A/46/334, A/47/345, A/48/270, A/49/329, A/50/416, A/51/364 and A/52/272.

Appendix

United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research publications for the period from July 1997 to June 1998

Research Reports/Rapports de recherche

Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones in the 21st Century, by Péricles Gasparini Alves and Daiana Cipollone (eds), 1997, 169 p., United Nations publication, Sales No. GV.E.97.0.29. *Also available in Spanish: *Las Zonas Libres de Armas Nucleares en el Siglo XXI*, editado por Péricles Gasparini Alves y Daiana Cipollone, 1997, 180 p., United Nations publication, Sales No. GV.S.97.0.29.

Operación CEIBO: Ejercicio Combinado de Operaciones de Mantenimiento de la Paz entre Uruguay y Argentina, editado por Cnel. Carlos Pagola y Cnel. Jorge Tereso, 1997, 63 p., United Nations publication, Sales No. GV.S.97.0.30.

Increasing Access to Information Technology for International Security: Forging Cooperation Among Research Institutes, by Péricles Gasparini Alves (ed.), 242 p., United Nations publication, Sales No. GV.E.97.0.23.

A Peace of Timbuktu – Democratic Governance, Development and African Peacemaking, by Robin-Edward Poulton and Ibrahim ag Youssouf (eds), 1998, 385 p., United Nations publication, Sales No. GV.E.98.0.3.

Disarmament and Conflict Resolution Project – Managing Arms in Peace Processes: Training, by Ilkka Tiihonen, Virginia Gamba, Jakkie Potgieter, Barbara Carrai, Claudia Querner and Steve Tulliu, 1998, 170 p., United Nations publication, Sales No. GV.E.98.0.6 (forthcoming).

Curbing Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms and Sensitive Technologies: An Action-Oriented Agenda, by Péricles Gasparini Alves and Daiana Cipollone (eds), 1998, 286 p., United Nations publication, Sales No. GV.E.98.0.8. *Also available in Spanish: *Represión del Tráfico ilícito de armas pequeñas y tecnologías sensibles: Una agenda orientada hacia la acción*, por Péricles Gasparini Alves y Daiana Cipollone (eds), 1998, 288 p., United Nations publication, Sales No. GV.S.98.0.8.

Sensor Monitoring for Peace Operations: Operational Applications, System Concepts and Legal Requirements, by Jürgen Altmann, Horst Fischer, Henny J. van der Graaf (eds), 1998, United Nations publication (forthcoming).

UNIDIR Briefs/Note de L'UNIDIR

A Peace of Timbuktu/La Paix de Timbouctou, Robin Edward Poulton and Ibrahim ag Youssouf, UNIDIR Brief No. 1/1998, Note de L'UNIDIR No. 1/1998.

Curbing Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms and Sensitive Technologies: An Action-Oriented Agenda/Represión del tráfico ilícito de armas pequeñas y technologías sensibles: Una agenda Orientada hacia la acción, Péricles Gasparini Alves and Daiana Cipollone, UNIDIR Brief No. 2/1998, Nota del UNIDIR No. 2/1998.

UNIDIR NewsLetter/Lettre de l'UNIDIR (quarterly/trimestrielle)

No. 34/96	*The transfer of Sensitive Technologies and the Future of Control Régimes*, 119 p.
	Le transfer de technologies sensibles et l'avenir des régimes de contrôle, 119 p.
No. 35/36	*The Korean Peninsula: Today and Tomorrow*, 148 p.
	La péninsule coréenne: aujourd'hui et demain, 148 p.
No. 37	*The Enhanced Review Process: Towards 2000*, 115 p.
	Le processus d'examen reinforcé: l'horizon 2000, 115 p.
Special Issue 3/97	*The Elimination of landmines*, 87 p.
Numéro spécial 3/97	*L'élimination des mines terrestres*, 87 p.

Annex II

Report of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research containing the proposed programme of work for 1998–1999

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I. Review of the report of the Director on the activities of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

1. Pursuant to the provisions of article IV, paragraph 2 (I), of the statute of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR),[a] the Director of the Institute, Ms. Patricia Lewis, reported to the Board of Trustees on 30 June 1998 on the activities of the Institute for the period from July 1997 to June 1998 (see annex I). The report was an extension of a preliminary report on the activities of the Institute from July 1997 to March 1998, which the Director had presented to the Board of Trustees at its thirtieth session in March 1998 in Geneva.

2. At the Geneva meeting, the Board welcomed the Director, who had assumed her duties on 13 October 1997. It commended her for the firm start she made in recharting the management, financing and programme activities of the Institute and expressed its appreciation to the Deputy Director for his stewardship of the Institute before the appointment of the Director. The Board noted with appreciation the preliminary report of the Director. It encouraged her to explore the possibility of seeking a cost-of-living index attached to the United Nations subvention to the budget of the Institute. Various members of the Board made suggestions on the orientation of the Institute's programme, of which the Director took note.

3. At the thirty-first session of the Board during June and July 1998, members expressed satisfaction that the programme of work for 1997–1998 had been implemented in an exemplary fashion, especially considering the demands placed on the Institute during the period of transition. The Board expressed its appreciation to the Director, Deputy Director and the staff of the Institute for the successful implementation of the previous year's programme.

4. The Board unanimously commended the Director for her fund-raising activities, which markedly increased the financial resources available to the Institute.

5. The Board approved the Director's report for submission to the General Assembly.

6. The Board reviewed the proposed programme of work for 1998–1999 put forward by the Director. It made several suggestions on current and future projects, which the Director indicated she would take into account as far as financial and human resources allowed.

7. The Board approved the proposed programme of work for submission to the General Assembly (see sect. IV below).

II. Management and staffing

8. The work of UNIDIR is carried out with a dedicated but small staff: a director, a deputy director, a head of political affairs and administrative assistant, a specialized secretary for publications, researchers and editors. Currently the staff is small, but growing, the majority of staff being employed on short-term contracts. The Board continued to strongly support the view of the Director that a stronger core staff was needed to reinforce the Institute's internal research as well as its capacity to sustain work carried out elsewhere. It welcomed the fact that all attempts were being made to increase UNIDIR's core and project income, so that staff can be put on longer-term contracts and be more adequately remunerated.

III. Subvention from the United Nations regular budget

9. While efforts are continuing to increase the portion of administrative costs in tied contributions, non-earmarked money remains scarce. A subvention is therefore also necessary for the coming biennium. Such a subvention, which is used to cover the costs of the regular staff, including the Director, is important, not only economically, but also to ensure the independence of the Institute. It is important to note that for several years the subvention has not been adjusted for inflation while the salaries have been adjusted. In 1996 and 1997, the subvention was temporarily reduced from $220,000 to $213,000. The latter sum has also been repeated for the biennium 1998–1999. It is hoped that it will be possible to increase the subvention in line with inflation so that its value does not continue to decrease.

10. In view of the importance of the United Nations subvention, the Board agreed that the matter should be kept under review as part of the effort to facilitate growth in voluntary income. Attempts to ensure that it returns to its previous level and is adjusted for inflation should be undertaken. The Board requested that the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and Fifth Committee give this suggestion serious consideration.

IV. Planned activities

11. The Institute's research programme, as approved and extended by previous meetings of the Board, comprises four main headings:

(a) Collective security in the framework of the United Nations;

(b) Regional security;

(c) Non-proliferation;

(d) Fourth special session on disarmament of the General Assembly.

A. Collective security

12. In the area of collective security, the following projects are planned for continuation or initiation in the coming year:

(a) A second, French, updated edition of the UNIDIR book on the United Nations peace-building experience in Mali (*La Paix de Timbouctou*);

(b) Regional discussion of the Mali experience and capacity-building in West Africa;

(c) A publication, *Arms management and conflict transformation in Mali*, by the Conflict Transformation Working Group of the University of Helsinki;

(d) A project on African capacities to undertake peacekeeping and peace enforcement operations, in collaboration with the Institute for Security Studies, South Africa;

(e) Discussion with other institutes on modern technologies and the needs of confidence-building, preventive diplomacy and peace operations;

(f) Participation in the work of the Study Group on Ammunition and Explosives;

(g) Illegal trafficking of small arms;

(h) A study on the manufacturing and manufacturers of small arms.

B. Regional security

13. In the area of regional security, the following projects are planned for continuation or initiation in the coming year:

(a) In recent years, regional security studies at UNIDIR have focused on the Middle East, West Africa and Latin America and, to a lesser extent thus far, in Asia. A diversification of regional security studies will be pursued in 1998, with a special emphasis on Asia;

(b) A workshop and publication on the potential uses of commercial satellite imagery for promoting peace and development in the Middle East in collaboration with the Cooperative Monitoring Center (United States of America);

(c) Development of a project to produce a satellite atlas of the Middle East;

(d) Peace-building, disarmament and small arms control in West Africa and the training of a new generation of African experts on security and disarmament matters;

(e) Development of a project on regional security in Asia;

(f) A study on the problem of small arms and the effect on societies in Latin America. This research is being undertaken by a visiting expert on the UNIDIR research fellowship programme.

C. Non-proliferation studies

14. The following projects in the field of non-proliferation studies are planned for continuation or initiation in the coming year:

(a) Development of a project to begin a series of seminars with international treaty-implementing organizations in order to highlight common interests and problems, encourage ratification and implementation, and promote dialogue between practitioners;

(b) A conference on biological warfare and two publications on the issues surrounding biological weapons;

(c) A series of UNIDIR informal discussion meetings in 1998 and 1999, focusing on the problems within the Conference on Disarmament;

(d) Two short studies on the possible limitations on the production of fissile materials. The first on the amounts and possession of the stocks of fissile material now present in the world and the second on disarmament and non-proliferation aspects of the proposals for banning the production of fissile materials for weapons purposes;

(e) A handbook on arms control and disarmament terms. The book is to be published in English and in Arabic, in order to further assist the peace process in the Middle East;

(f) Development of a project on the proposed Central Asian nuclear-weapon-free zone;

(g) The development of a project on nuclear arms reductions, with the initial focus on tactical and short-range nuclear weapons;

(h) Development of a project to assess the achievements of the United Nations Special Commission on Iraq;

(I) A study on the transfer of dual-use space technologies;

(j) A study assessing the costs and benefits of implementing arms reduction and disarmament agreements including the dismantlement of weapons;

(k) The development of projects on the role of non-governmental organizations and journalists in implementing the Ottawa Convention on landmines and on the training of deminers.

D. Fourth special session on disarmament

15. As part of its contribution to the preparation of a fourth special session on disarmament, the Institute will hold meetings and electronic conferences on the disarmament and security agenda. UNIDIR has set up an electronic conference site, which can be accessed through its web site, designed specifically to draw opinion and debate from a wide section of the international community on the current key questions in disarmament and security.

E. Cooperation with and among research institutes

16. Four recurrent activities will be continued under this heading:

(a) Maintenance and development of UNIDIR's computerized information and documentation system, DATARIS, on who is doing what in the field of security and disarmament research. The database, with over 1,200 references, is currently being overhauled and is scheduled to be on-line by September 1998;

(b) Publication of the quarterly UNIDIR *NewsLetter* (to be renamed *Disarmament Forum*);

(c) Convening of regional conferences, held with the dual purpose of examining region-specific issues of security, arms control and disarmament and of fostering cooperation with and among research institutes in the areas concerned;

(d) Convening of conferences and other smaller group activities in support of initiatives aimed at improving communication and access to data.

17. The Geneva Forum, a collaboration with the Quakers United Nations Office and the Geneva Graduate Institute of International Studies, will invite a number of speakers to Geneva in 1998 and 1999 to address controlling the spread of small arms.

F. United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research Fellowship Programme

18. The Institute is developing the visiting fellowship programme to increase the numbers of scholars and the time they spend at the Institute to allow them to focus on aspects of regional security.

G. Publications

19. The Institute will continue to publish a quarterly *NewsLetter*, research reports and research papers whilst making some changes to the way in which the publications are presented and distributed. The *NewsLetter* is to be renamed *Disarmament Forum* and distributed more widely so that UNIDIR's work will reach a broader audience.

20. Along with each research report and paper, short summary papers, called *UNIDIR Briefs*, are produced and distributed worldwide.

V. Finance

21. To date, voluntary contributions in 1998 amount to about US$ 1,167,200 (see table 1).

22. Tables 1 to 4 show the financial status of UNIDIR, as follows:

(a) Table 1, current status of 1998 estimated income from voluntary sources;

(b) Table 2, current status of 1999 estimated income from voluntary sources;

(c) Table 3, estimates of income and expenditure for 1998 and 1999;

(d) Table 4, estimated resource requirements for 1998 and 1999.

Notes

[a] General Assembly resolution 39/148 H, annex, of 17 December 1984.

Table 1

Current status of 1998 estimated income from voluntary sources

	US$
A. Contributions received in 1997 but earmarked for 1998	
Israel	4 900
Subtotal A	**4 900**
B. Contributions received in 1998 or pledged for 1998	
Brazil (received)	45 000
Finland (pledged)	28 100
France (received - last installment of the 1997 contribution)	140 000
France (pledged)	280 000
Greece (received)	7 600
The Netherlands (pledged)	10 100
Norway (received)	75 000
Switzerland (received)	46 600
United Kingdom (received)	332 900
United Kingdom (pledged)	33 300
Cooperative Monitoring Centre (United States of America)	142 900
Dortmund University, Germany (received)	3 000
European Union (received)	11 200
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (received)	6 600
Subtotal B	**1 162 300**
Total estimated income from voluntary sources for 1998 to date	**1 167 200**

Table 2

Current status of 1999 estimated income from voluntary sources

	US$
France	280 000
Greece	7 600
Total estimated income from voluntary sources for 1999 to date	**287 600**

Table 3

Estimated income and expenditure for 1998 and 1999

(In thousands of US$)

Items		*1998 estimates*	*1999 estimates*	*Increase or (decrease)*
A.	Funds available at the beginning of the year	285.9	520.2[3]	234.3
B.	Income:			
	– Voluntary contributions and public donations	1 162.3[1]	287.6[4]	(874.7)
	– Subvention from the United Nations regular budget	213.0[2]	213.0[2]	—
	– Interest income	30.0	10.0	(20.0)
	Total income	**1 405.3**	**510.6**	**(894.7)**
C.	**Total funds available (A + B)**	**1 691.2**	**1 030.8**	**(660.4)**
D.	Expenditure	1 171.0	834.4	(336.6)
E.	**Fund balance at the end of the year (C - D)**	**520.2**	**196.4[5]**	**(323.8)**

[1] See annex III for details of UNIDIR 1998 estimated income from voluntary sources.

[2] The amount of the regular budget subvention to UNIDIR was fixed at $426,000 for the biennium 1998-1999.

[3] Includes $143,700 required as operating cash reserve for 1998.

[4] See annex IV for details of UNIDIR 1999 estimated income from voluntary sources.

[5] Includes $93,100 required as operating cash reserve for 1999.

Table 4

Estimated resource requirements for 1998 and 1999

(In thousands of US$)

Resource requirements	*1998 estimates*	*1999 estimates*	*Increase or (decrease)*
A. Direct programme and administrative costs			
– Interpretation	6.4	—[1]	(6.4)
– Translation and revision	8.7	—[1]	(8.7)
– Consultants' fees and travel	25.0[1]	—[1]	(25.0)
– Ad hoc expert groups	65.6[1]	—[1]	(65.6)
– Salaries and related staff costs	513.1[2]	439.4	(73.7)
– Personal service contract	354.4[1]	294.8[1]	(59.6)
– Language training	2.4	2.4	—
– Other specialized training	5.0	—	(5.0)
– Fellowship programme (stipend)	25.3	—[1]	(25.3)
– Official travel of staff	50.0	30.0[1]	(20.0)
– Conference room rent	2.5	—[1]	(2.5)
– Rental of conference service equipment	2.0	—[1]	(2.0)
– External printing and binding	6.5	5.0	(1.5)
– Hospitality	1.0	—	(1.0)
– Maintenance of office automation equipment	9.0	7.0	(2.0)
– Paper for internal reproduction	15.0	15.0	—
– Library books	2.0	—	(2.0)
– Subscriptions and standing orders	2.0	1.2	(0.8)
– Data-processing supplies	5.0	5.0	—
– Acquisition of office equipment	24.5	5.0	(19.5)
Total	**1 125.4**	**804.8**	**(320.6)**
B. Programme support costs (5% of total A, less United Nations subvention)	45.6	29.5	(16.1)
Total estimated expenditure (A + B)	**1 171.0**	**834.3**	**(336.7)**
C. Operating cash reserve (15% of total A and B less United Nations subvention)	143.7	93.1	(50.6)
Grand total A + B + C	**1 314.7**	**927.4**	**(387.3)**

[1] These figures may be increased upon the confirmation of current funding proposals.

[2] Includes the salary and common staff costs for the Director for 1997 (2.5 months).